

**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Rhode Island State Pilotage Commission
Department of Environmental Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908**

**Proposed Minutes of the Rhode Island State Pilotage Commission
Meeting**

235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI

Held on September 13, 2007

Members in attendance:

Michael Scanlon, Chair

Captain J. Peter Fritz, Member

Captain E. Howard McVay, Jr. Member

Member(s) excused from attendance:

Larry Mouradjian, Member

Others in attendance:

Gary Powers, Legal Counsel to the Commission

Virginia MacCoy, Recording Secretary

Tom Sullivan, Moran Shipping

Terry Bisson, DEM/Strategic Planning

Quorum being present, the Chair called the Meeting to order at approximately 9:30 a.m. The Minutes of the June 7, 2007 meeting

were approved by assent.

Old business:

1. Commissioner McVay updated the Commission on the apprentice pilots

a. Captain Richard Astles is on step 2 for 32' draft

b. Captain Alex Soukhanov has 3 more trips for BI sound and then he will be making formal application to the Commission.

c. Interviewing for more apprentices; looking for 2 more pilots

2. Terry Bisson presented to the Commission a draft of the annual report. The report requires better resolution pictures than the pictures that the Commission has given Terry. Commissioner Fritz will look into pictures he may have and whether they are of better quality. The Commission will also need to review the report for accuracy and proofread report for typographical errors.

3. Commissioner McVay reported federal laws have changed regarding the apprentice point system. The point system that the Commission uses was developed in 1995 and needs to be updated. Commissioner McVay has asked Captain Walker & Captain Kirby to look into the upgrading of the system and report back to the Commission with their recommendations.

New Business

1. Chairman Scanlon received correspondence from the National Transportation Safety Board recommending that the Commission require training in bridge resource management. Chairman Scanlon responded to the National Transportation Safety Board that the Commission already requires the pilot to go through remedial training when there is an incident.

2, Commissioner McVay reported on the dredging of the Providence River. The Army Corps of Engineers will be finished blasting the rock that has impeded vessel traffic by tomorrow, Sept. 14.

3. Chairman Scanlon reported on EPA boat discharge permits. The Chairman reported that discharge permits will be required for all vessels regardless of size and will include all types of discharge. At the present time there is no mechanism in place for these permits to be issued. The permits will be issued by region and they will not be valid from region to region. Therefore, if a vessel has a permit issued from Rhode Island and wants to sail into Massachusetts's waters it would need to obtain a permit from Massachusetts. The major reason for this permit is caused by evasive species coming in with foreign vessels.

4. Chairman Scanlon reported that DEM has set up a committee on how to handle abandoned vessels, as it has become a major problem.

The state is looking into a source of revenue to remove the vessels.

5. Chairman Scanlon received a complaint regarding car carriers coming into Davisville and impeding sailing regattas. The complainant would like the carriers to use the Gould Island channel to Davisville. Chairman Scanlon explained to the complainant that for safety reasons the route the carriers use is the safest.

A motion was made and accepted to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 am.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

The Commission plans to hold its next regularly scheduled meeting in the Conference Room of the Division of Law Enforcement at DEM Headquarters located at 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI on November 8, 2007 starting at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia MacCoy, Recording Secretary